



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents
United States Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

MAR 23 2005

SENNIGER POWERS LEAVITT AND ROEDEL
ONE METROPOLITAN SQUARE
16TH FLOOR
ST LOUIS MO 63102

In re Application of :
William D. Pickling et al :
Serial No.: 09/830,026 : PETITION DECISION
Filed: October 20, 2001 :
Attorney Docket No.: UOK5320.1 :
:

This is in response to the petition under 37 CFR 1.181, filed June 30, 2004, requesting withdrawal of abandonment based on timely filing of a reply. The delay in acting on this petition is regretted, however it was not forwarded to the deciding authority until recently.

A review of the file history shows that the examiner mailed an Office action to applicants on November 21, 2003, setting a six month statutory period for reply. Upon apparent failure to receive a reply the application was held abandoned by Notice of Abandonment mailed June 18, 2004. Applicants state that a reply was submitted on May 21, 2004, and provide an Office date stamped postcard evidencing receipt thereof. A copy of the reply has been located in the IFW file. The error in mailing a Notice of Abandonment may have been due to a delay in scanning the papers for the IFW file. The Notice of Abandonment was mailed in error and is withdrawn and the application restored to pending status with the mailing of this decision.

The petition is **GRANTED**.

The application will be forwarded to the examiner for further consideration.

Should there be any questions about this decision please contact William R. Dixon, Jr., by letter addressed to Director, TC 1600, at the address listed above, or by telephone at 571-272-0519 or by facsimile sent to the general Office facsimile number, 571-273-8300.


Jasemine C. Chambers
Director, Technology Center 1600